

House File 2644 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2336)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act directing the office of energy independence, in
2 conjunction with the Iowa energy center, to conduct a
3 feasibility study regarding the establishment of low-head
4 hydropower energy production facilities, and providing an
5 effective date.
6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
7 TLSB 5536HV 82
8 rn/nh/8

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1 1 Section 1. LOW-HEAD HYDROPOWER == FEASIBILITY STUDY.
1 2 1. a. The office of energy independence, in conjunction
1 3 with the Iowa energy center, shall conduct a study assessing
1 4 the feasibility of establishing one or more low-head
1 5 hydropower energy production facilities at one or more of the
1 6 following locations:
1 7 (1) Sites bordering the Mississippi river, including but
1 8 not limited to a federal lock and dam.
1 9 (2) Sites located on a river, stream, or reservoir within
1 10 this state, including but not limited to a lock and dam
1 11 erected in connection with the river, stream, or reservoir.
1 12 b. Prior to identifying potential facility locations, the
1 13 office or the Iowa energy center shall, in coordination with
1 14 the United States army corps of engineers, the department of
1 15 natural resources, or any other federal or state agency or
1 16 entity the office or the Iowa energy center determines
1 17 appropriate, measure current and flow levels at federal lock
1 18 and dam locations bordering the Mississippi river, and at
1 19 rivers, streams, and reservoirs within this state, to assess
1 20 potential energy generation capacity.
1 21 2. For purposes of this study, a "low-head hydropower
1 22 energy production facility" means a facility designed and
1 23 constructed for energy extraction from flowing water where the
1 24 vertical distance through which the water falls is relatively
1 25 short. The office shall by rule establish distance
1 26 specifications for characterization of a proposed location as
1 27 low-head.
1 28 3. The office shall submit a report of its assessment,
1 29 including recommendations regarding potential energy
1 30 generation capacity derived from low-head hydropower
1 31 facilities, and a proposed number of such facilities and
1 32 potential locations, to the governor and the general assembly
1 33 by January 1, 2009. The report shall also contain
1 34 recommendations for establishing a pilot project involving
1 35 construction of a low-head hydropower energy production
2 1 facility, including a proposed location and timeline for
2 2 development of the facility.
2 3 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of
2 4 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.
2 5 EXPLANATION
2 6 This bill directs the office of energy independence, in
2 7 conjunction with the Iowa energy center, to conduct a study
2 8 assessing the feasibility of establishing one or more low-head
2 9 hydropower energy production facilities at specified locations
2 10 in this state. The office or the center is also directed to
2 11 measure current and flow levels at federal lock and dam
2 12 locations bordering the Mississippi river, and at rivers,
2 13 streams, and reservoirs within this state, to assess potential
2 14 energy generation capacity, in coordination with the United
2 15 States army corps of engineers, the department of natural

2 16 resources, or other federal or state agencies prior to
2 17 identifying proposed locations for such facilities. The bill
2 18 provides that the office shall establish by rule distance
2 19 specifications for characterization of a proposed location as
2 20 low-head. The office is directed to submit a report,
2 21 including recommendations regarding potential energy
2 22 generation capacity derived from low-head hydropower
2 23 facilities, a proposed number of such facilities, potential
2 24 facility locations, and a pilot project proposal, to the
2 25 governor and the general assembly by January 1, 2009.
2 26 The bill takes effect upon enactment.
2 27 LSB 5536HV 82
2 28 rn/nh/8